

Parks and Recreation Board Minutes

April 22, 2003 Meeting

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, April 22, 2003 at the Parks and Recreation Department, 200 S. Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas.

Board Members Present: Rosemary Castleberry, Pablo Valdez, Linda Guerrero, Jeb Boyt, Marilyn Bostick, Clint Small, and Mary Ruth Holder.

Board Members Absent: Amy Babich, and Jeff Francell

City Staff Present: Jesus M. Olivares, Kim Jamail, Randy Scott and Dina Haines

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Rosemary Castleberry, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES, March 25, 2003

Board Member Boyt made the motion to approve the minutes as amended. **Board Member Valdez** seconded the motion. The vote was in favor 4-0-2. (Holder and Small abstained)

C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

<u>Lloyd Bemis</u> spoke in opposition to the Fooshee boat dock variance. He stated that the neighborhood association has an understanding that docks are to be a single boat slip per lot. There are 30 homes there and he believes allowing the Fooshees to build a second slip by granting them a variance for a second slip would set a bad precedent.

<u>Pam Gradner</u> spoke in opposition to the Fooshee boat dock variance request. She expressed safety concerns about adding more traffic to the lake.

<u>Sharon LaFemina</u> spoke in opposition based upon what she believes would be bad precedent that others might follow in the future.

<u>Jeannie Lightsey</u> spoke in opposition based upon increasing traffic along the street adjacent to the docks as well as safety concerns about increased boat traffic in the area.

<u>Tracy Anderson</u> spoke in opposition based upon concern over increased traffic along the road adjacent to the docks and that it will set a bad precedent.

Laurie Reece faxed her comments requesting that the Parks Board deny approval of variance stating concerns about parking, traffic and safety of residents.

<u>Carla Robertson</u> spoke in opposition to the variance.

Tom Burns lives next door to the Fooshees and disputes the 'grandfather notion' that would allow the Fooshees to build a second lift on the property. Mr. Burns has lived there since 1984. Mr. Burns also mentioned the Fooshees built over the projected property line by 18 inches on to Mr. Burn's property. He would like the variance denied.

<u>Jill Fooshee</u> spoke in favor of the variance saying she disputed representations by the neighbors who stated that only one boat slip is allowed per lot. She stated there are several lots that have more than one slip.

Steve Fooshee stated he and his son use the second slip to park his son's boat. His son is a waveboarder. Regarding his second lift being built on Mr. Burns property line, he stated he was unaware that all property owners own the right of way at the water line. Regarding the safety concerns, he stated that there is a lot of underage drinking there on the lake, but his son is of legal age to drink.

D. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Make a Recommendation Regarding the Construction of Fooshee Boat Dock at 4418 Rivercrest. File No. SP-02-0171DS

Board Member Small explained to Board Members that the Fooshee boat dock has been red tagged and their contractor, Signor Enterprises has been fined. The item has been brought to the Navigation Subcommittee several times. Currently the property has one existing one-slip boat dock. They have built a second boat dock and were red tagged. Mr. Fooshee applied for an exemption and was granted the exemption to replace the rotten wood and decking as needed, with no replacement of the pier or beams for an additional slip. At an on site inspection, the boat dock was found to be in need of wood replacement, but the 'boat lift' was non existent. A determination was made that the exemption would cover all work necessary to replace the rotted wood and decking but that any proposed work to build the boat lift would require a separate development application.

Please see citizen communication for opposition to the variance request. Most opposed stated concerns about safety, parking, traffic and the precedent it would set for other owners to add boat docks creating more hazards on the lake.

Board Member Small made the motion to deny a variance allowing the construction of the Fooshee dock at 4418 Rivercrest. **Board Member Boyt** seconded the motion. **The motion passed in favor of denial of the variance request.** 7-0-0.

2. Make a Recommendation Regarding the Construction of R.G. Jr. Mueller Boat Dock at 4909 Highway 2222. File No. SP-03-0033DS

This item was pulled off the agenda.

3. Make a Recommendation Regarding the Construction of Simons Boat Dock at 6707 Leprechaun Drive. File No. SP-03-0052DS

Board Member Small stated the Simons boat dock involves the reconstruction of an existing dock. The proposed boat dock is a two-boat slip. An existing dock is being removed and a new dock is being built. Mr. Small stated the Parks and Recreation Department have received a letter from the neighbor approving the reconstruction of the Simons boat dock.

Board Member Small made the motion to approve the Simons boat dock at 6707 Leprechaun Drive. Board Member Boyt seconded the motion. The motion passed in favor 7-0-0.

4. Appoint (1) Parks Board Member to Serve on the Austin Downtown Commission.

Board Member Boyt agreed to serve on the Austin Downtown Commission.

E. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Olivares invited the board members to attend the upcoming events scheduled for the upcoming weekends.

Saturday and Sunday, April 26 and 27 will be ParksFest 2003 and FlugTag event on Auditorium Shores.

Saturday, April 26 on Festival Beach, The Asian Dragon Boat Races

Sunday, April 27 Earth Day will be celebrated on Auditorium Shores.

Saturday, May 3 – Opening day for the Farmer's Market at Republic Square Park. This event will run through November 22, 2003, occurring on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to Noon.

Cinco de Mayo Festivities at Fiesta Gardens, May 1 through the 5 of May.

Mr. Olivares informed the board the Aquatics Division has now relocated to Deep Eddy Pool in the portable buildings and Barton Springs Pool was reopened to the public, Saturday, April 19.

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs Committee

Pablo Valdez informed the board the Programs Committee will be meeting the 3rd Thursday of the month at 8:30 a.m. Summer Teen Academy will be relocated to six recreation centers; Givens, Rosewood, Dove Springs, Metz, St. Johns and South Austin Recreation Center. Also discussed were the upcoming Cinco de Mayo events.

Land & Facilities Committee

No Meeting was held.

Navigation Committee

Items discussed and voted on were the Fooshee and Simons' boat docks. R.G. JR Mueller item was pulled.

G. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Jeb Boyt mentioned the planning for a National Trails Day event, Saturday, June 7, centered on the dedication of the trail through the Roy G. Guerrero Colorado River Park.

Mary Ruth Holder updated the board on the BCP Transition Advisory Team meeting. The team will be reporting a series of recommendations including recommendations concerning public access. She also informed Board Members about House Bill 1837 regarding using city owned and newly acquired lands for BCP purposes.

H. ADJOURED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:39 p.m.